

**Proposal for C23**  
**WG14 n2665**

**Title:** Zero-size reallocations are no longer an obsolescent feature  
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**Date:** 2021-2-14  
**Proposal category:** Defect  
**Target audience:** C programmers using the realloc functions  
**Abstract:** Now that zero-size reallocations are undefined behavior, it no longer needs to be described as an obsolescent feature in Section 7.31.14  
**Prior art:** C

# Zero-size reallocations are no longer an obsolescent feature

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Reference Document: n2464

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## Summary of Changes

n2665

- Remove paragraph 2 from section 7.31.24

## Introduction and Rationale

n2464 made invoking realloc with a size argument equal to zero undefined behavior. Consequently, it is no longer an obsolescent feature.

## Proposed Wording

The wording proposed is a diff from the committee working draft N2596 from December 11, 2020. **Green** text is new text, while **red** text is deleted text.

Change 7.31.14 as follows:

7.31.14 General utilities <stdlib.h>

1 Function names that begin with str or wcs and a lowercase letter are potentially reserved identifiers and may be added to the declarations in the <stdlib.h> header.

~~2 Invoking realloc with a size argument equal to zero is an obsolescent feature.~~

## Acknowledgements

I would like to recognize Aaron Ballman for his help with this work.

## References

n2464 Zero-size Reallocations are Undefined Behavior

<http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg14/www/docs/n2464.pdf>